Installation & Maintenance Instructions

TOPTILE® Woodgrain Ceiling & Wall Planks are easily installed on level joists, sheet rock, flat plaster, smooth ceilings and walls or on furring strips. Furring strips will provide a level installation…although it may be necessary to use shims for irregular areas. We highly recommend direct joists or furring strips as the most stable foundation for the best installation. However, long, coarse threaded screws may provide a good installation for direct installation over existing, strong & flat ceilings.

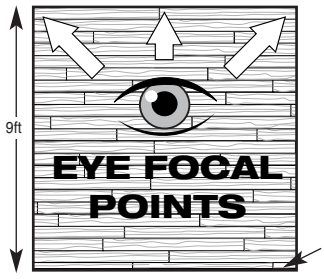
REQUIRED POWER TOOLS include: Circular saw, jig saw or a fine-tooth/blade hand saw. Other commonly used tools might include a power drill, hammer, screwdriver, tape measure, level, chalkline, T-square and stud locater.

There are attachment clips and suggested flat-head screws included in a package in each carton… but the screws included in the cartons should only be used for wood furring strip installations or when attaching clips through 1/2" or 5/8" drywall into wood studs. If wall studs are metal, please use self drilling flathead metal screws (not included).

IMPORTANT: Three (3) clips per long side of each plank (equidistantly spaced) are required for optimal installation.

LAYOUT OF THE ROOM

The first row of planks is the most important; as such, care should be exercised to achieve a balanced appearance upon completion of the installation. Measure the room to be covered perpendicular to the intended direction of the planks. The room measurement has to be divided by 5" (width of the plank). Be sure that the main eye focal point of the room starts with a full plank.



Example 9' high wall
9' x 12" = 108"
108" ÷ 5" (width of planks) = 21.6
You will need 21 planks
21 planks x 5" = 105"
108" - 105" = 3"
Last row will be a 3" strip.

This sample multiplier should be used for ceiling, wall and wainscoting applications. Find the "eye" focal point of the room and use the math multiplier shown in the above example. You may wish to stagger the 48" standard lengths to achieve a random appearance to your ceiling, in which case the second and alternating rows of planks should be started with a cut plank. The cut planks should be adjusted so that there are no planks that are too short at either end. Be sure to measure the length of the room even if you do not wish to have a staggered appearance...i.e. so that there are no short planks at the end of the rows.

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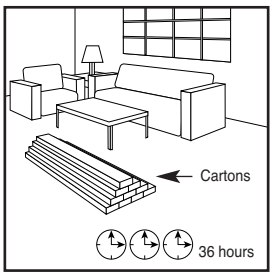

BEFORE INSTALLATION, ACCLIMATE THE WOODGRAIN CEILING & WALL PLANKS FOR 36 HOURS AT NORMAL ROOM TEMPERATURE. Acceptable Temperature Range: 59°F to 85°F

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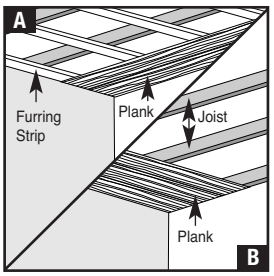

For ceiling applications, run the planks opposite to the joists or the furring strips. Plan for the electrical outlets and lighting fixtures. Mark the planks to be cut out and use a jig saw to make the cuts. Make sure there is ample space between the electrical items and the planks so that they do not touch / make contact. If you have any questions on electrical units, please contact the manufacturer of the units or an electrician.

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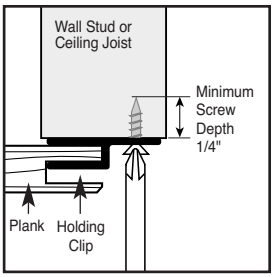
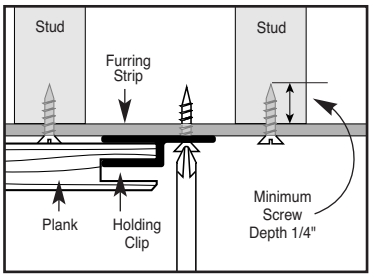
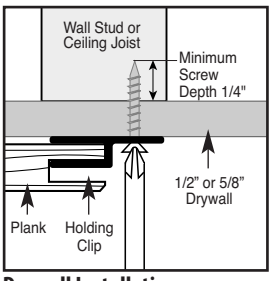


Direct Stud or Joist Installation



Furring Strip Installation



Drywall Installation

It is very important that the proper length of screw be used for attaching holding clips to furring strips, directly into studs or joists, or through drywall and into studs. The provided screws will work for all the above installations, except when the studs are metal. Please check the length of the screws included in the package to determine the appropriate length required that provides at least a penetration into the joists of a minimum of 1/4". Longer coarse thread screws may have to be purchased separately from your local hardware store if there is a need for extra length.

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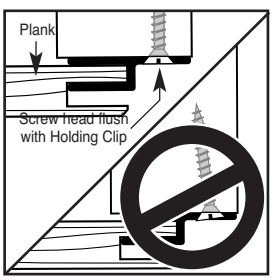

NOTE: Insert the screws straight so the head will not interfere with insertion of subsequent planks. The tongue of the clip should fit snugly inside the grooved edge.

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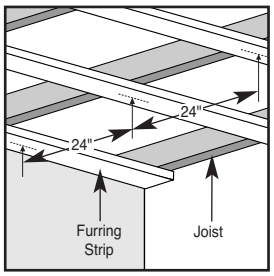

For furring strip installation, affix the strips across the joists every 24" on center with screws or nails at least 1" long so that they will go into the joist with a minimum depth of 1/4".

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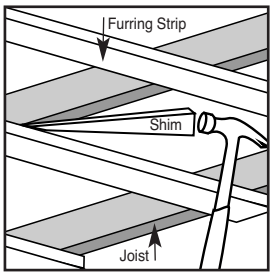

Use shims, if necessary, to achieve a uniform flat and level ceiling or wall.

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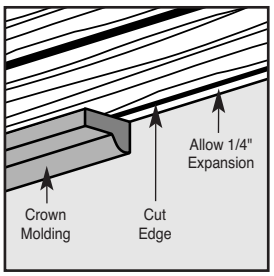

An expansion joint of about 1/4" should be allowed between the ceiling and the wall so that walls that are not perfectly flat (180°) can be accommodated by adjusting the planks at the time of installation. Crown molding will cover the end-joints.

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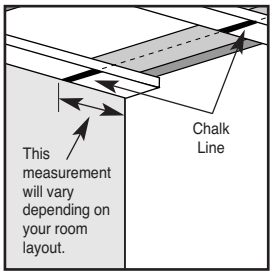

Take chalk line and extend from one side wall to the other and snap a straight line. Cut the first plank to the required width, starting at the left side of the room.

Place the plank with the grooved side out and the tongue (cut edge) facing the wall and allow for the expansion joint of 1/4". Slide the clips into the groove and screw the flange to the underside of each joist or furring strip.

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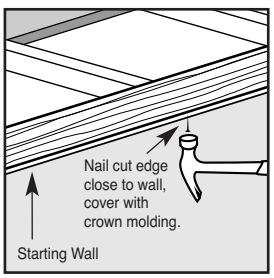

Always nail the cut edge to the joist or furring strip close to the wall so that it will be covered by molding.

After the first plank is installed, continue down the row with the same system. The additional rows will be installed with the same clip system and the short ends need to be cut to accommodate the last planks in the row. Remember to allow for the expansion joints of 1/4" at the ends.

WAINSCOTTING AND WALL APPLICATIONS

TOPTILE® Woodgrain Ceiling & Wall Planks are designed for walls and ceilings. However, this product should not be used in showers or tub enclosures or other damp areas, as extensive exposure to moisture may cause swelling of the planks. The same tools used for ceiling applications can be used for wall applications. The same measurement and starting system should be used for wall applications as used for ceiling applications. However, you will need to leave a 1" expansion joint on the bottom of the plank in case of excess exposure to damp floors. The expansion joints should be covered with cove base.

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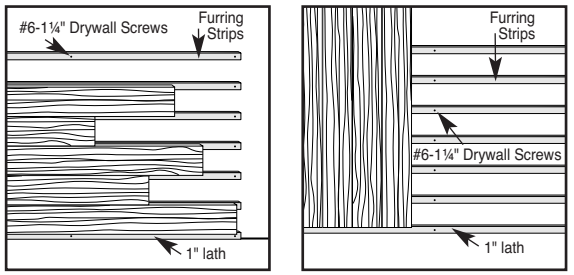

For uneven walls, use furring strips and shims (if necessary) to provide a flat application. If the existing walls are flat and smooth, furring strips may not be necessary. The planks can be installed with the clip system, provided that you use screws that are appropriate for a permanent and stable installation.

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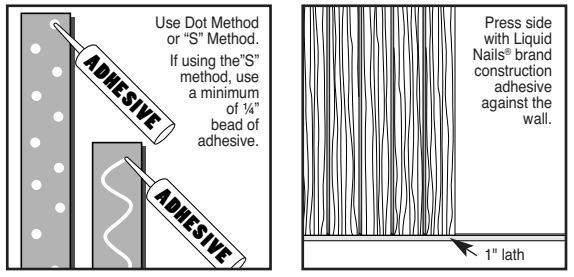

You may also use construction adhesive on a smooth, flat existing stable wall. Liquid Nails® brand construction adhesive is a good option. We recommend the LN-606 Paneling & Molding Adhesive or the LN-903 Heavy Duty Adhesive. Follow the directions on the adhesive container. You may need to insert a few nails halfway through on the top and bottom until the adhesive dries. Then, remove the nails and cover the holes with molding on the top and bottom (cove base on the bottom and cap on the top). Use wood molding and stain or paint to match the color background of the plank for cap, base, and corners.

MAINTENANCE

Clean the surface with a slightly damp cloth or sponge. TOPTILE® Woodgrain Ceiling & Wall Planks have a clear protective finish and require no polish or wax. For hard-to-remove stains that do not react to a damp cloth, use a solution of water with a small amount of mild detergent. Afterwards, use a damp cloth (only) for a second cleaning.

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January 9, 2014